

REMARKS

The allowance of claims 1, 2, 4 and 8-13 and the indication that claims 3, 5-7 and 14-20 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection(s) and the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is acknowledged.

As to the objection to the disclosure because of the indicated informalities, the Examiner's suggestion for amendment of claims 5-7 and 15-20 to overcome the informalities is acknowledged, with the Examiner's suggestions being incorporated into the amendments as presented herein. Thus, the objection to the disclosure should now be overcome.

By the present amendment, in addition to the amendment of the claims to overcome the objection noted by the Examiner, claims 3, 14 and 15 have been amended in a manner which is considered to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and a new dependent claim 21 dependent upon claim 15 has been presented.

Turning to the rejection of claims 3, 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, such rejection is traversed insofar as it is applicable to the present claims, and reconsideration and withdrawal thereof are respectfully requested.

With respect to claim 3, applicants note that claim 3 has been amended to delete "the" of the phrase "the components" so as to overcome the lack of antecedent basis in such claim and applicants submit that claim 3, as amended, should now be considered to be in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. With respect to claim 14, hereagain, as to the lack of antecedent basis, "the" of the phrase "the outer frame" has been amended to "an outer frame" so the lack of antecedent basis with respect to an outer frame should now be overcome. Additionally, with respect to the feature of "the united electron microscope", this phrase has been amended to recite "components constituting the assembly which are integrally united in the casing" in a manner similar to that as set forth in claim 3, such that applicants submit that claim 14, as amended, should also now be

considered to be in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. With regard to claim 15, the recitation of "the members listed above" has been amended to recite "at least members of the assembly" such that the members of the "assembly comprising a vacuum container, an electron emitter, a vacuum pump, a sample chamber and an electron beam detector", as originally recited in claim 15, are all encased in a casing, and applicants submit that claim 15, as amended, should now be considered to be in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants note that a new dependent claim 21 has been added which depends from claim 15, and further recites the feature that the electron lens and the display are encased in the casing, such that this claim should also be considered to be in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and since such claim depends from a claim which should now be considered to be allowable, claim 21 should also be considered allowable thereover therewith.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants submit that in addition to the claims indicated as being allowed, by the present amendment, all other claims indicated as being allowable and new dependent claim 21 should be considered to be allowable, such that issuance of an action of a favorable nature is courteously solicited.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.43023X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



Melvin Kraus
Registration No. 22,466
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

MK/cee
(703) 312-6600